

Michael Gazsi
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Danbury, CT 06810

March 12, 2014

Dear CT PHC Testimony,

Dear Senator Gerratana, Representative Johnson, and esteemed members of the Public Health Committee:

I write to ask you to strongly support and vote in the affirmative to add bill language for the modernization of the CT Naturopathic physician scope of practice to HB 5537. The language needs to be attached to this bill so it can come before the Public Health Committee for consideration. This Naturopathic scope of practice law is 90 years old and has not kept pace with the significant advances in education and training of Naturopathic doctors in the ensuing decades.

I would also like to tell you my personal story regarding natural/naturopathic medicine.

When I was a child I was asthmatic, had frequent illness with very high fevers (over 106), had terrible eczema all over my body and would have seizures every time I had fevers (about once a month). My mother was told I would be on seizure medication in the future and the asthma was getting progressively worse despite conventional medications.

My mother read up on natural treatments and decided to make dietary changes and put me on supplements. Within 3 months, all my symptoms were gone. I grew up without knowing any serious illness until I went away to college.

At that time, I started having high fevers every month again and hallucinating with the fevers. I called home and my mother told me what I should do. I did what she said and I stopped having these problems.

This experience motivated me to explore natural medicine as a career.

I have been practicing for 20 years now, and every week I hear stories like this.

People who's lives have been changed by making changes in their diet and by using natural substances. People who have explored all conventional options with minimal or no results or who have unacceptable side effects and who are still sick and looking for answers.

However, there are many who i can not help because they need more aggressive treatments that are not available. Medical doctors have no interest in natural treatments and the scope of practice in CT is terribly restrictive compared to just about every other state that licenses NDs so we are not able to provide these as well.

I kindly ask you to support this bill so that I can do all that I was trained to do, and thereby help the people who come to me with the safe and effective treatments they desire.

Sincerely

Thank you for your support and consideration.

Sincerely,
Michael Gazsi, ND